

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02

SS-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-05 BIB-01 CU-02

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4435

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5327

DEPT FOR EUR/RPM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: NO DECISION YET ON STAGE III DATE

REF: GENEVA 5268

1. JULY 8 MEETING OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE (CC) FAILED TO PRODUCE AGREEMENT ON DATE FOR STAGE III SUMMIT. FORMAL SESSION WAS INTERRUPTED FOR ONE HOUR IN EFFORT TO BRIDGE GAP BETWEEN POSITIONS. RESULT WAS AGREEMENT BY DELEGATIONS OF SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, FINLAND AND AUSTRIA TO ATTEMPT TO PUT TOGETHER COMPROMISE PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING OF CC, NOW SCHEDULED FOR 1900 ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 9. DESPITE STATEMENT AT JULY 8 MEETING (REFTEL), FINNISH AMBASSADOR DID NOT FORMALLY REMOVE JULY 29 AS A POSSIBLE STARTING DATE FOR STAGE III. WE HAVE MADE CLEAR PRIVATELY TO ALL INTERESTED DELEGATIONS OUR STRONG PREFERENCE FOR JULY 29 AS STAGE
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III DATE, AND HAVE SUPPORTED EFFORTS AT REACHING A COM-

PROMISE ON TIMING QUESTION WHICH WOULD KEEP OPEN THIS POSSIBILITY.

2. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR OPENED MEETING BY PROPOSING THAT CC TAKE FOLLOWING DECISION (TEXT OF WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED BY EC-9 POLITICAL DIRECTORS IN ROME:

BEGIN TEXT:

(1) THE CC CONSIDERS THAT COMPLETION OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE BEFORE THE END OF JULY IS DESIRABLE AND STILL POSSIBLE.

(2) TO THAT END, THE CC CALLS UPON ALL WORKING BODIES TO INTENSIFY AND SPEED UP THEIR EFFORTS TO SETTLE THE PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO EACH DELEGATION.

(3) THE CC WILL MEET ON 15TH JULY TO DETERMINE WHETHER A GENERAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON ALL OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS; IT WILL IN SUCH CASE BE ABLE TO TAKE AT THAT TIME A DECISION ON THE DATE FOR CONVENING THE THIRD STAGE.

(4) IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH AGREEMENT THE CC WILL ADDRESS ITSELF TO THE PROBLEM OF ESTABLISHING AN ALTERNATIVE DATE.
END TEXT.

(IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT, BECAUSE OF FINNISH TIMING REQUIREMENTS, EFFECT OF THIS DECISION WOULD BE TO EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF STAGE III IN JULY.)

3. SOVIETS AND WARSAW PACT ALLIES REPLIED WITH EXTREMELY STRONG NEGATIVE STATEMENTS. SOVIET REP CALLED ITALIAN PROPOSAL A PROVOCATION AND SAID IT SET BACK WORK OF CONFERENCE. LESS POLEMIC CRITICISM ALSO GIVEN BY SWEDISH AND SWISS REPS. AFTER HEAT HAD GONE OUT OF THIS EXCHANGE, MEETING WAS INTERRUPTED TO SEE IF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS COULD BRING SOLUTION. RESULT WAS AGREEMENT BY FOUR NEUTRAL DELEGATIONS TO SEEK COMPROMISE PROPOSAL. NEUTRAL PAPER WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH DELEGATIONS DURING THE DAY OF JULY 9 AND PRESENTED FORMALLY AT CC MEETING THAT EVENING.

4. AS "CONTRIBUTION" TO WORK OF NEUTRAL GROUP, POLISH REP INTRODUCED FOLLOWING PROPOSAL ON BEHALF OF WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES:
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"THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE DECIDES TO SET JULY 29, 1975 AS THE DATE FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE THIRD PHASE OF THE CSCE."

5. COMMENT: DESPITE OBVIOUS DISLIKE FOR THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS' DRAFT DECISION ON THE PART OF SEVERAL EC-9 DELEGATIONS, EC UNITY HAS BEEN MAINTAINED, EVEN BY THE

FRENCH AND DANES, WHO ARE MOST OPENLY IN FAVOR OF SETTING DATE. A KEY ROLE IS BEING PLAYED BY THE FRG, WHICH CONTINUES TO REQUIRE TYING UP OF ITS SPECIAL PROBLEMS BEFORE AGREEING TO A DATE. PEACEFUL CHANGE LANGUAGE, WHICH HAD CAUSED SO MUCH DIFFICULTY, WAS ENTERED IN THE JOURNAL AS READY FOR REGISTRATION ON JULY 8, BUT QRR AND THE "EUROPE CLAUSE" HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY AGREED. FURTHERMORE, A DECISION EVIDENTLY CANNOT BE EXPECTED IN GENEVA UNTIL COMPLETION OF FRG CABINET DISCUSSION OF CSCE ON JULY 9. IF GERMAN CABINET DECISION IS POSITIVE AND IF NEUTRALS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN PUTTING TOGETHER A COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ACCEPTABLE TO A BROAD MAJORITY OF DELEGATIONS, WE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT AT LEAST A TENTATIVE DECISION TO HOLD STAGE III ON JULY 29 COULD BEGIN TO EMERGE ON JULY 9. IT SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE STRESSED THAT TIME IS RAPIDLY RUNNING OUT AND ANY NUMBER OF PROBLEMS COULD DESTROY CHANCES FOR CONSENSUS ON DATE IN JULY. DALE

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